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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/076,593	02/19/2002	Katsuya Enami	WC-01-11-01.00	2371

7590

01/06/2005

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EXAMINER

SURYAWANSHI, SURESH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2115

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/076,593

Applicant(s)

ENAMI ET AL.

Examiner

Suresh K Suryawanshi

Art Unit

2115

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2002.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/19/04.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28 are presented for examination.

#### *Specification*

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: symbol "10e" should be "10c" at page 7, line 25.

Appropriate correction is required.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsai (US Patent no 6,283,789 B1).

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5. As per claim 1, Tsai teaches

an electronic device having an interface for data transfer composed of a signal line and a power supply line with a limited maximum allowable current [Fig. 6, 13; col. 3, lines 39-50],

characterized in that said electronic device has at least two ports of said interface [Fig. 6, 13; col. 3, lines 51-52], and

said electronic device as a whole is adapted to operate with more current consumption than is admitted through a single port of said interface [col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

6. As per claim 2, Tsai teaches that control means connected to each of said at least two ports of the interface [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 51-53]; a body portion connected to said control means [col. 3, lines 39-63]; and power supply control means connected between each respective power supply line of said at least two ports of the interface and a power supply line of said body portion, wherein said control means performs on-control of said power supply control means only when the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted as a result of communication between said control means and the external equipment [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

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7. As per claim 3, Tsai teaches that control means connected to each of said at least two ports of the interface [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 51-53]; and a body portion connected to said control means, wherein said control means, on the basis of the result of communication with the external equipment, controls said body portion in such a manner that at least part of functions of said body portion can not be used until the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted, and all of the functions of said body portion become available only when the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

8. As per claim 4, Tsai teaches that control means connected to each of said at least two ports of the interface [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 51-53]; and a body portion connected to said control means, wherein said control means, on the basis of the result of communication with the external equipment, controls said body portion in such a manner that at least part of functions of said body portion can be used with limited performance until the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted, and all of the functions of said body portion become available without limitations only when the supply of predetermined electric power through each of said at least two ports of the interface is permitted [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

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9. As per claim 5, Tsai teaches that control means connected to each of said at least two ports of the interface [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 51-53]; and a body portion connected to said control means and adapted to perform substantive data transmission and reception with respect to the external equipment, wherein said substantive data transmission and reception between said body portion and the external equipment is carried out through one of said at least two ports of the interface [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

10. As per claims 6-10, Tsai teaches that body portion comprises an information storage device [col. 3, lines 44-46].

11. As per claim 11, Tsai teaches that body portion comprises a disk recording and reproducing device, and said at least part of the functions is a data recording function [col. 3, lines 44-46; inherent to the system].

12. As per claim 12, Tsai teaches that body portion comprises a disk recording and reproducing device, and said at least part of the functions with limited performance is disk rotation speed [col. 3, lines 44-46; inherent to the system].

13. As per claims 13-23, Tsai teaches that interface is a USB interface, said predetermined communication is a configuration operation, and said control means comprises a device controller [col. 1, lines 58-61; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

14. As per claim 24, Tsai teaches

a first device controller adapted to be connected to a host machine [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 39-63; first port 110 is connected to the host machine 200];

a second device controller connected to said first device controller and being adapted to be connected to the host machine [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, lines 39-63; second port 120 is connected to the host machine 200]; and

a controlled device connected to said first device controller [Fig. 6, 7, 13; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 26; the peripheral device having controlled device(s) for first and second USB ports].

15. As per claim 25, Tsai teaches that first device controller is configured to undertake transmission and reception of information between said controlled device and the host machine after each of said first and second device controllers has completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine [col. 2, lines 1-6; col. 3, lines 51-62].

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16. As per claim 26, Tsai teaches that first device controller is configured to control operation of said controlled device in such a manner that the controlled device operates with current consumption below a maximum value as specified by the USB Standard on conditions that said first device controller has completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine and said second drive controller has not completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine [col. 1, lines 37-41; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

17. As per claim 27, Tsai teaches that first device controller is configured to control operation of said controlled device in such a manner that the controlled device operates with current consumption below a maximum value as specified by the USB Standard on conditions that said second drive controller has completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine and said first device controller has not completed a connection procedure with respect to the host machine [col. 1, lines 37-41; col. 2, lines 1-6, 16-26; col. 3, line 39 -- col. 4, line 27].

18. As per claim 28, Tsai teaches that first and second device controllers are integrated into a unitary structure [Fig. 19].



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*Conclusion*

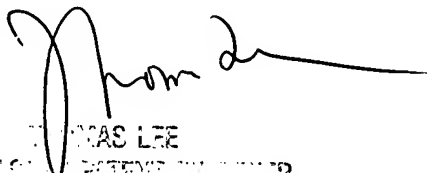
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suresh K Suryawanshi whose telephone number is 571-272-3668. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

sks

December 22, 2004

  
THOMAS LEE  
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2115